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removing said charged agent from said mixture to assemble a particle from nucleocapsid protein monomers in said mixture.

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21. (amended) A method for eliciting an immunogenic response in a patient in need thereof, comprising the step of administering to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising a plurality of recombinant nucleocapsid monomers, the primary sequences of which are derived from duck hepatitis B virus, wherein said plurality of monomers are assembled to form a particle.

B⁵ Cf Juta

24. (amended) A composition comprising recombinant duck HBcAg; and, a hapten, said hapten being linked to said duck HBcAg.

Please refer to the attachment for the marked up version of the amended claims, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c).

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application.

The amendment to the specification corrects a typographical error. Specifically, "bee" on page 18, line 11 has been changed to "been." No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

The amendments to claims 1, 2, 14, 17, 21, and 24 are supported by the specification and original claims. No new matter has been introduced by the present amendments and entry of the same is respectfully requested. Support for amended claims 1 and 2 may be found, for example, on pages 16-17 of the instant application. Support for amended claim 14 may be found, for example, on page 6, lines 14-17 of the instant application. Support for amended claim 17 may be found, for example, on pages 26-28 of the instant application. Support for amended claim 21 may be found, for example, on page 30, lines 6-23 of the instant application. Support for amended claim 24 may be found, for example, on pages 16-17 of the instant application.

By this amendments, the Applicants do not acquiesce to the propriety of any of the Examiner's rejections and do not disclaim any subject matter to which the Applicants are entitled. *Cf. Warner Jenkinson Co. v. Hilton-Davis Chem. Co.*, 41 U.S.P.Q.2d 1865 (U.S.